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NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING JUNE 11, 1987

Chairman Edwin Meese III convened the meeting of the National Drug Policy Board at 10:00 a.m.

1. Introductory Remarks: The Chairman directed the Policy Board's attention to the amended minutes of the April 16 meeting and the minutes of the May 22 meeting. He asked for changes or corrections. None were made.

He then announced the submission of the Interdiction Report to Congress in accordance with the reporting requirements of the Department of Defense Authorization Act of 1987, Section 1373. He thanked the members for their input and cooperation. Copies of the report will be made available to all interested parties.

Mr. Meese said that the NDPB Directive delineating the responsibilities of the Coordinating Groups and lead agencies was included in President Reagan's radio address on Saturday May 30 and his Press Release of the same day. He pointed out this was yet another success of the Policy Board.

Action: The Policy Board members signed the minutes acknowledgment sheet.

2. Legislative Review: Mr. Kenneth Thompson, NDPB Staff, provided an update on the reporting requirements of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act and Congressional hearings on drug-related topics. He stated that the mark-up for the "Drug Czar" bill sponsored by Senator Biden has been changed to June 23.

The Chairman commented on the "Drug Czar" legislation, stating that it would only accomplish what the Policy Board is now doing, but with an additional and unnecessary level of bureaucracy. He pointed out that there were 32 Congressional committees with over-sight on drug issues to which the Policy Board must respond. He said it is important that the Policy Board publicize its active role and achievements to the public and Members of Congress.

3. Status Report on Drug Reduction Programs in Federal Agencies: The Chairman commented on the June 10th meeting between several members of the Policy Board and Senator Mikulski and Representative Hoyer regarding the amendment to the Supplemental Bill. The amendment would delay and restrict the implementation of the Federal drug testing program. However, based on the meeting and the interest demonstrated by the Policy Board, negotiations continue and acceptable compromise language to the bill is likely.



Ms. Constance Horner, Director of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), presented a report on the recent survey conducted to determine Federal agencies' status in implementing a drug testing program. She stated there has been significant progress towards implementation in many agencies. An important component in the process is receipt of the final certification requirements for laboratories and sample procurement from HHS. A written report was provided to the Policy Board. This discussion also included costs of testing and rehabilitation services as well as statistics on the dramatic drug abuse reduction in the military since a testing program was instituted.

Action: Mr. Meese requested complete information on all armed service branches by Monday, June 15, 1987.

- 4. Status Report on the White House Conference: Ms. Lois Herrington, Chairman, provided an overview of the Executive Order on the White House Conference, pointing out the broad perspective of the mandate. She anticipated the conference would be positive and will take a proactive stance in the Administration's efforts against drug abuse. Plans are to have the conference and the major associated tasks completed by February/March 1988. She stated this would require the cooperation of participating Federal agencies. A copy of the E.O. was provided.
- 5. <u>Vienna Conference</u>: Ms. Ann Wrobleski, Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics Matters, provided an overview of the International Conference to be held in Vienna, Austria, June 16 26, 1987. Chairman Meese will lead the U.S. Delegation which will include 15 agencies, 2 Congressmen and several individuals in the private sector. Approximately 130 countries will be represented. Briefings will be held June 11-12.
- 6. Discussion on Agency Roles and Responsibilities: The Chairman referred to the recent NDPB Directive assigning responsibilities to lead agencies, pointing out the need to move forward with the development of implementation plans. Mr. Trott said that each of the lead agencies would begin developing plans; however, in some areas considerable work has already been done. The Staff is currently devising an implementation plan for the National and International Drug Law Enforcement Strategy published in February.
- Mr. Kenneth Thompson, NDPB Staff, reviewed this implementation effort and said that a master catalog of action statements" from all agencies derived from the enforcement strategy, was under development. He stated that the vast majority of these action items should be unaffected by the recent lead agency designations. Those statements that are inconsistent with the lead agency organization will be identified in the review process. Relevant portions of the plan will be provided to corresponding lead agencies.

Mr. Trott noted that the implementation plan described did not apply to the demand side, as the National Strategy was developed before the Policy Board was assigned responsibility for such programs. He said the demand side agencies should begin developing their plans by devising a baseline report that gives the status of current programs.

Action: There being no objections from the members, the Chairman approved the recommendations and directed the Staff to prepare a two-page paper describing the process and plans, for distribution to Policy Board Members.

7. New Business; No new business was discussed. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.